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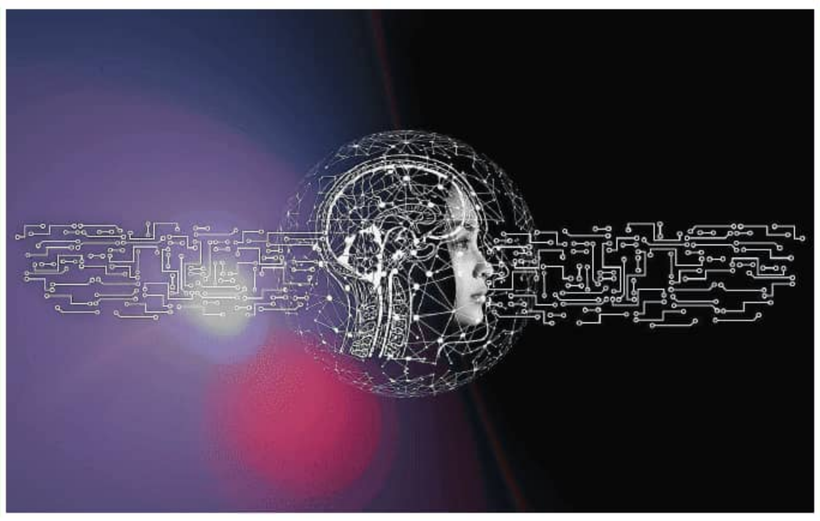
Bangalore Mirror

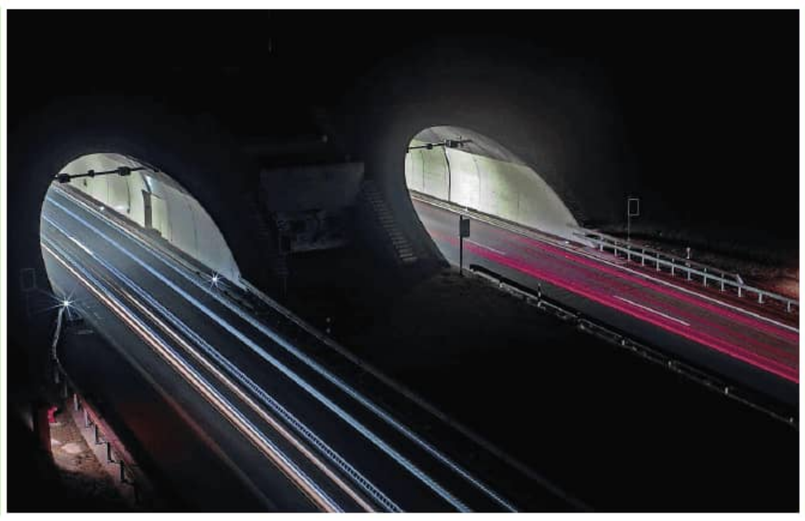
TEMP Max 27 | Min 21 | Humidity 78% Light rain Sensex 83,459 | Nifty 25,597 | Gold 1,20,222 | Silver 1,46,490 | Dollar 88.66 | Euro 101.79 | GBP 115.58



EYE FOR AI

BWSSB turns to cutting-edge Artificial Intelligence to detect illegal connections, modernise pipelines, enhance efficiency

PAGE 3



PRICE WE PAY

Details tabled in council reveal underground tunnel road will require staggering ₹800 crore just to compensate landowners

PAGE 6

Concentrations of 5 widely used antibiotics, above permissible limits, detected in tap water supply in hospitals, sewage treatment plant of apartment complex, groundwater samples and lakes

BITTER PILL TO SWALLOW

Assessment indicates widespread pollution due to pharmaceutical contaminants

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“Residues from antibiotics have the potential to bioaccumulate within aquatic organisms, possibly enabling them to enter their way into the food chain and leading to individuals exposed to contaminated seafood and potable water

—Researchers

Bengaluru is home to multiple antibiotic hotspots, posing risks of antimicrobial resistance. Higher levels of various antibiotics, more than permissible limits, have been found in tap water, groundwater, effluents of wastewater treatment plants, and lakes across 15 locations in the city.

Concentrations of five widely used antibiotics, above permissible limits, have been detected in the tap water supply in hospitals on HAL Main Road and Bannerghatta Road, sewage treatment plant of an apartment complex near Bellandur, in groundwater samples of Indiranagar, Jayanagar, Nagasandra, Electronic City, and Cubbon Park, and in lakes such as Halasuru, Hoodi, Bellandur, Basavanapura, and Hebbal.

The five antibiotics analysed by researchers from various institutes in India and abroad include erythromycin, amoxicillin, ciprofloxacin, sulfamethoxazole, and trimethoprim.

These antibiotics were chosen because they are commonly prescribed in veterinary and human medicine, and have been found to be contaminants in surface waters and wastewater effluents on a frequent basis. They also tend to stay longer in the environment, are only partially eliminated during wastewater treatment, and also contribute to antimicrobial resistance.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

Things go bump in the night

Noisy quick-commerce storage centre in residential area keeps people awake

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A quick-commerce storage and distribution outlet has been causing a racket in a residential area.

It has been two years since people living at Sundaramurthy Road in Cox Town have been losing sleep due to constant late-night loading and unloading activities at the outlet in their lane.

For a cancer patient in Cox Town, nights have become harder than the illness itself. Living right opposite the distribution point, she says sleep has become a luxury as trucks arrive late into the night, workers shout, and crates clatter. After two years of complaints, she says she remains waiting not for medicines, but for silence.

The resident, requesting anonymity, said she has been fighting the issue since 2023. She also wrote to the Commissioner of Police that year, seeking relief. The woman, who is currently undergoing treatment, said, “The disturbance often continues past midnight, making it difficult to rest.” She also revealed that due to the noise,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

THINGS TO DO

01 Oceans of insight

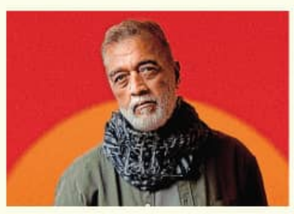
Azim Premji University is presenting the 'Coasts and Oceans of Life', the fourth edition of its annual climate festival. Building on the success of earlier editions themed on rivers, forests, and mountains, this year's festival dives deep into the ecology, livelihoods, and imagination of the seas that shape India. **Where: Azim Premji University, Sarjapur; When: October 27 to November 8**

02 Stand-up and deliver

After a massive world tour, Samay Raina is back to his homeground, with a brand new show, ready to take the audience on a laughter-filled journey. **Where: Good Shepherd Auditorium, Shanthala Nagar; When: November 21, 4 pm**

03 Playdate with wonder

Kukdukoo Children's Festival is bringing a weekend of fun, laughter and magic, packed with spectacular activities for children and parents. **Where: Oakridge International School, Dommasandra; When: November 29 and 30, 10.45 am**



04 Musical escape

Re: Sound by Jet ALive featuring Lucky Ali will be taking the audience on a soulful journey, celebrating music that has defined generations. From nostalgic classics to new age soundscape, experience the timeless charm of a musical icon, live on stage. **Where: Phoenix Marketcity, Whitefield; When: December 6, 7 pm**

05 Jam session

Derek & The Cats, a Bengaluru-based jazz funk collective led by pianist and composer Derek Mathias, will be performing live. Known for their infectious blend of jazz, funk, and house, the band's performances are a burst of groove and energy. **Where: Windmills, Whitefield; When: November 7 and 8, 9.30 pm**

GKVK flower market project advances despite resistance

Sources say officials have already visited campus area proposed to house marketplace; tendering process for new market expected to begin shortly, likely by end of December

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International flower market planned on five-acre GKVK land aims to decongest and relocate flower trade from KR Market

Amidst stiff opposition from residents in the area, students, and Gandhi Krishi Vigyana Kendra (GKVK) staff, the state government appears to be moving ahead with its international flower market project on five acres of land inside the GKVK campus.

According to sources, officials from the Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) visited the campus on November 3 to inspect the site proposed to house the market.

Tendering of the new market will get underway shortly, most likely by the end of December.

"Two officials from APMC and NABARD visited the campus on Monday evening to inspect the site and indicated that a tender for the project will be floated soon," the source informed BM.

Ever since its announcement, the project has sparked protests—not only from local residents but also from city-based environmentalists—due to the proposed felling of 942 trees on the campus. An online campaign started against the project garnered more than 20,000 objections from across the city.

Those opposing the project say that the proposed area of land comprises nearly 1,000 trees that include important horticultural species such as cashew, mango, coconut, pomelo, jackfruit, etc. Forest species include mahogany, silver oak, and all are of a 12 to 13-year-old plantation. It also houses 422 cashew trees, aged 13 years and spanning multiple varieties, which serve as a resource for student education, farmer training, and ongoing research activities.

Ever since its announcement, flower market project has sparked protests, not only from local residents but also from city-based environmentalists, due to proposed felling of 942 trees on campus

A student noted that apart from being of horticultural and ecological significance, the trees also created a good microclimate to harbour different birds and animals. "Moreover, this block serves as a treasury of knowledge to the teachers, scientists, young researchers, and the farming community. It provides valuable flora for scientists and students for research," said the student.

Reportedly, soil sampling of the proposed site has already been conducted by APMC nearly two months ago.

A resident of the area expressed concern that the proposed market would generate large amounts of daily waste and worsen traffic congestion along GKVK double road. "The area has already been experiencing heavy vehicular traffic since the Mall of Asia. The other side of the double road is a residential area, and the market will prove to be a nuisance for them. It should be shifted out of the city limits," said the resident.

Quick solutions promised, con delivered

A 32-year-old man was arrested from Bengaluru for allegedly cheating a person of over Rs 24 lakh by promising quick solutions to personal problems through rituals advertised on Instagram, police said on Wednesday. The accused, identified as Vasudeva R, a resident of Yeshwanthpur in Bengaluru and currently staying at Srinivasa Nagar in Sunkadakatte, was arrested on November 4, they said. The case was registered at the Dakshina Kannada District Cyber Crime Police Station under the IT Act and other relevant sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita. **— PTI**

Meghana Raj recalls how late husband predicted State Award win

Actress Actress Meghana Raj, who has won the Karnataka State Award for Best Actress for her outstanding performance in the Kannada film 'Iruvudellava Bittu', has now penned an emotional post recalling how her late husband Chiranjeevi Sarja had predicted that she would win the State Award for the film when she was shooting for it.

Taking to her Instagram handle, Meghana Raj wrote, "Chiru sat me down and asked me two questions that day. 'Who is the lead of this mega budget multistarrer film?' I told him the name(s)....He smiled again and said, 'YOU, you play the lead. It's going to be your film, don't worry how it will be taken by the audience or the industry. You just do what you do best'" **— IANS**

Assistant professors on long-term deputation continue to draw UGC pay without teaching

Several assistant professors in government first-grade colleges across Karnataka continue to remain on deputation in the Department of Higher Education offices in Bengaluru, despite not performing any teaching duties for years. Their salaries, ranging between Rs 1.5 lakh and Rs 3.5 lakh per month, are drawn from their parent colleges in various districts, even as they work in administrative roles at the department headquarters.

Sources in the department confirm that more than 25 such professors have been on deputation for nearly a decade, with some continuing for up to 24 years without returning to their original posts. Government orders issued annually directing them to rejoin teaching duties have been routinely ignored.

These officers reportedly enjoy non-teaching staff benefits, including 30 earned leaves and 10 half-pay leaves annually — far more than the 10 earned leaves permitted for teaching faculty. Official data shows some have accumulated between 270 and 400 earned leaves and 50 to 200 half-pay leaves, indicating their prolonged stay in office roles. Some have also availed additional facilities such as official vehicles and other administrative privileges. Senior officials are aware of these irregularities but have allowed the practice to continue, allegedly due to internal influence and administrative convenience. **— BMB**

PU exam registration chaos: Private candidates struggle as colleges shut down

Thousands of private candidates aiming to clear their Second PU exams and secure jobs or higher education are facing severe hurdles due to administrative lapses. In many districts, students who paid Rs 1,960 and registered online were shocked to find their designated registration colleges permanently shut down. The confusion stems from the Department of Pre-University Education's oversight. Several colleges used as registration centres have shut down or are on the verge of closure, but their names and codes were not updated in the system. As a result, students' documents cannot be verified or approved, blocking them from writing the exams. Officials have admitted to the issue and promised corrective measures, including extending the registration deadline and relocating exam centres. Education officers say the issue likely arose due to a lack of coordination between the department and the examination board. Students and parents have urged authorities to ensure that no private candidate's application is rejected because of departmental errors — a timely reminder of the urgent need for better data management in the state's education system. **— BMB**

RBI directs banks to return ₹3,400 crore from inactive accounts in Karnataka

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has assigned a major responsibility to banks across Karnataka, directing them to refund unclaimed deposits lying in inactive accounts to rightful heirs by the end of this year. Across 31 districts, around 1.18 crore dormant accounts collectively hold deposits worth Rs 3,400 crore, which have been transferred to the Depositor Education and Awareness Fund (DEAF). As part of the initiative titled 'Your Money, Your Right', RBI has instructed banks to return funds from about 12.58 lakh accounts — roughly 10.6 per cent of the total dormant accounts — to eligible beneficiaries. Over 12,500 bank branches are participating in this state-wide campaign. **— BMB**

AI cracks city leaks, unleashing tech power on water grid

Smart sensors, AI-powered robots, and real-time data analysis are being deployed to detect leaks, curb wastage, and modernise water pipelines

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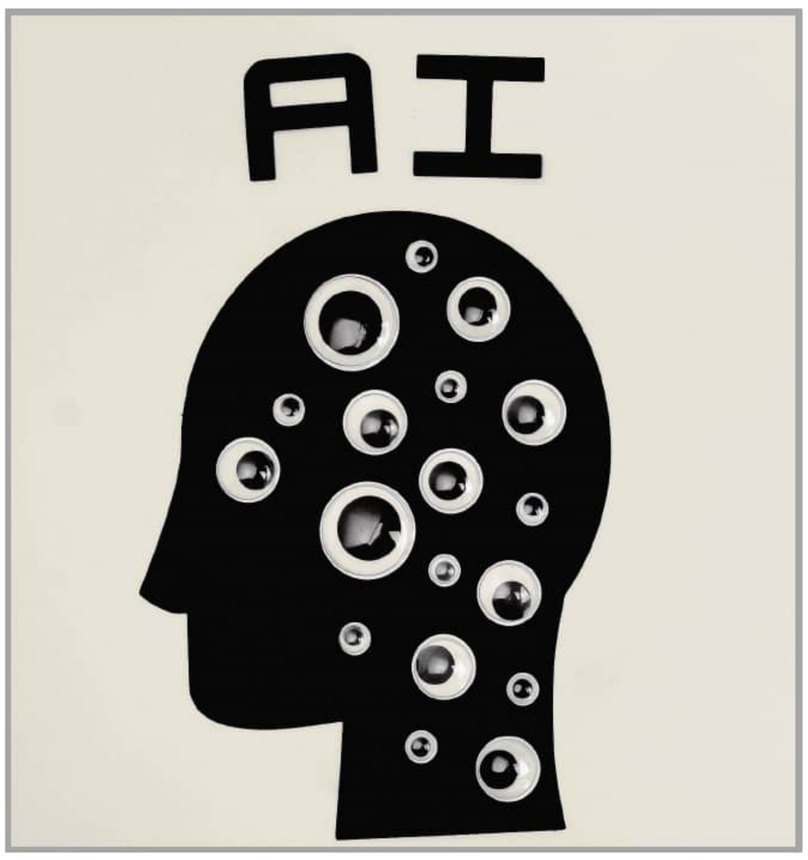
In a move to curb the growing issue of Non-Revenue Water (NRW)—water produced but not billed due to leaks, theft, or metring errors—the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) is turning to cutting-edge artificial intelligence (AI) and smart technology to modernise the city's water management system.

According to BWSSB estimates, the percentage of unaccounted-for water, which was 27% in 2024, may have risen slightly to 30% following the commissioning of the Cauvery Stage V project. With each kilolitre of water costing about 48 to produce and deliver, the Board faces significant financial losses from wastage. To tackle this, BWSSB has rolled out a comprehensive plan combining AI-powered leak detection, data analytics, and pipeline modernisation.



BWSSB's high-tech drive uses smart sensors and data tools to detect leaks and secure water flow

In a bid to slash non-revenue water and modernise ageing infrastructure, the BWSSB is rolling out an artificial intelligence initiative combining real-time monitoring, automated detection, and digital mapping to secure the city's water future

AI-driven leak detection and smart monitoring

A BWSSB official said, "We are planning to deploy AI-based robots and sensors to monitor pipelines, detect leaks, and analyse water pressure variations in real time. Using integrated data from smart metres and sensor networks, the AI algorithms will flag anomalies in water flow and pressure, enabling early identification and repair of leaks before major losses occur."

Officials explained that the AI system will also assess water quality, ensuring safer distribution and minimising contamination risks. Discussions with experts are already under way to design and implement these AI models.

In parallel, the Board is strengthening enforcement by introducing a BWSSB Survey App, designed to record and verify water and sewage connections across Bengaluru's residential and commercial establishments. This initiative aims to curb illegal water tapping and unauthorised sewer connections, which have contributed to NRW losses. Additionally, BWSSB inspection teams are surveying old reservoirs and storage tanks to assess their condition and identify potential leaks or inefficiencies.

Phased pipeline modernisation under way

With many of Bengaluru's pipelines dating back 40–50 years, particularly in the city's central zones, BWSSB has embarked on a phased modernisation programme. Work is already in progress in areas such as Old Gurappanapalya, 7th Main Road, Ashwath Katte Road, Nagendra Block, NIMHANS Layout, and KEB Layout. These projects—costing about 10.35 crore—include the replacement and reconstruction of old pipelines, coupled with new monitoring infrastructure to prevent future leakage. Officials estimate that replacing ageing mains and rejuvenating reservoirs citywide could cost up to 8,000 crore over the coming years.

According to the Central Public Health and Environmental Engineering Organisation (CPHEEO), NRW should ideally not exceed 15% of total water supply. Bengaluru once recorded an alarming 50.91% in 2007 but successfully reduced it to 27% by 2024 through phased leakage-control projects. However, with expanding operations under Cauvery Stage V, a temporary rise in NRW is expected until full stabilisation.

BWSSB's latest AI initiative signals a major shift in Bengaluru's approach to urban water management. By blending technology with infrastructure renewal, the Board aims to create a smarter, more sustainable water-supply system—cutting wastage, enhancing transparency, and ensuring every drop counts.

As a senior BWSSB official remarked, "Artificial intelligence is not just a tool—it's becoming a key partner in ensuring Bengaluru's water security."

CRIME FILES

₹70 crore swiped: CEO, employee held

In a major financial fraud, Cubbon Park Police have arrested two individuals, including the CEO of the EPFO Staff Credit Co-operative Society, for embezzling approximately ₹70 crore from the society's funds.

The arrested individuals have been identified as Gopi, the CEO of the society, and Lakshmi Jagadish, a staff member. However, a third suspect, identified as Jagadish, the society's accountant, is absconding, and the police are actively working to trace him.

Founded over 61 years ago, the EPFO Staff Credit Co-operative Society was established to provide financial support to EPFO employees, both current and retired. Many employees had invested substantial sums in the society's fixed deposits (FDs), expecting regular interest payments in accordance with the society's terms. However, when interest payments stopped for nearly three months, investors became suspicious. Upon auditing the accounts, it was discovered that large portions of the FD amounts were missing. While loans amounting to ₹3 crore had been disbursed, the remaining ₹70 crore was unaccounted for. Investors allege that Gopi and several staff members misappropriated the funds for personal use Following a formal complaint from concerned investors, Cubbon Park Police registered a case and arrested the two accused. Investigations are ongoing to trace the missing funds and apprehend the absconding accountant.

–BMB

Teen dies amid alleged harassment

A 19-year-old youth died by suicide on Tuesday following alleged harassment linked to his relationship with a divorcee in Mudachintalahalli village, under the Chintamani Rural Police jurisdiction.

The deceased, Nikhil Kumar, a school dropout, was found hanging from a tree near the village lakebed. According to the police, Nikhil's parents lodged a complaint stating that he was in a relationship with a woman from the same village, who is divorced and has two children.The parents, upon learning about the affair, had reportedly warned Nikhil to stay away. However, the woman allegedly continued to pressure him to maintain the relationship and is said to have blackmailed him using photographs and videos.

Unable to bear the alleged harassment, Nikhil is believed to have taken the extreme step. Police have registered a case of unnatural death and are investigating further to determine the exact cause of the incident.

–BMB

(If you or someone you know is struggling with suicidal thoughts, contact the Tele-Manas helpline: 14416 or 1800-891-4416, or the SAHAI Helpline: 080-25497777.)

Tenant duo arrested after elderly woman murdered in Uttarahalli

In a swift operation, the Subramanyapura Police arrested a couple for the murder of a 65-year-old woman at her residence in Uttarahalli on Tuesday.

The accused have been identified as Prasad Srishail (26) and his wife, Sakshi Hanamanta (23). Police said the duo were tenants of the complainant, Ashwath Narayan, husband of the deceased, Shreelakshmi (65).

According to police, Ashwath Narayan, who works at an agarbatti (incense stick) factory in Cottonpet, had left for work around 9:30 am and tried calling his wife around 2:15 pm, but received no response. Growing worried, he contacted another tenant, Phaniraj, around 5:30 pm, asking him to check on her.

Phaniraj, who returned home around 6 pm, found Shreelakshmi lying unconscious inside the house. When Ashwath Narayan rushed home, he noticed injuries on her neck, lips, and face, and found her mangalsutra missing. He immediately alerted the police.

A preliminary investigation revealed that Shreelakshmi had spoken to her elder sister, Sampathi Lakshmi, earlier in the afternoon, mentioning that someone had come to check the television before stepping out to talk. Police suspect the accused took advantage of their familiarity with the family to gain entry and strangled her before escaping with the gold chain.

A case was registered, and the accused were arrested within hours of the murder. Further investigations are underway.

–BMB

SPOTLIGHT

WESTERN GHATS CONFERENCE OF SOUTH INDIA

Western ghats conference of South India is the platform where ecologists, environmentalists and experts will throw new light on the complex issues of using natural resources of the Western ghats for development and the consequences of irreparable damage being done to the fragile ecosystems. Any project to be executed in the western ghat region needs a thorough study and research before its implemented.

Our dams are 50 % silted up, the forests are dense and gorges are deep. Animal corridors crisscross such ecological dense ecosystems. The recent Nobel awards for economics have stressed on the natural prerequisits for sustained economic growth. So it asks for an alternative development concept and ideas of growth. Hence the conference will deliberate on such intricate ways and means of socio-ecomic development, especially for the developing countries like India.

Promises fade, potholes stay in Bhairaveshwara Nagar

Political feud between former MLA, MP leaves Bhairaveshwara Nagar roads dug up, residents struggle with potholes, slush, and poor connectivity for years

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Residents of Bhairaveshwara Nagar in the Raja Rajeshwari Nagar Assembly constituency have been facing severe problems due to the poor condition of three roads that were supposed to be asphalted before the State Assembly elections. The residents alleged that the tussle between the then MLA Munirathna and the then MP DK-Suresh was the main cause for the delay in asphalting the roads.

The residents have been running from pillar to post for the last three years, seeking the restoration of the roads, but in vain. "The roads were in good condition three years ago. But the contractor removed the existing asphalt with a plan to redo it. However, when a tussle arose between the MLA's and MP's supporters over who should take the credit, the work did not begin," said Y Reddappa Reddy, a resident of Old Sri Ram Hospital Road.

The condition of Sri Ram Hospital Road at Bhairaveshwara Nagar

Demanding that the authorities concerned asphalt Old Sri Ram Hospital Road, Sri Ram Hospital Road, and 2nd Cross at Bhairaveshwara Nagar, Prasanna Kumar, general secretary of the Bhairaveshwara Nagar Residents' Association, said political tussles have put paid to the work. "The then MLA visited the locality three months before the State Assembly elections were announced. He promised to improve these roads," said Prasanna Kumar.

Naveen, another resident, said it has become difficult for two-wheeler riders to commute on these roads. "We have been appealing to the authorities concerned, including the Bangalore West City Corporation Commissioner, to take measures for the restoration of these roads. Commuting is difficult here, especially during the monsoon," Naveen said.

A resident, pleading anonymity, said the elected representatives only talk of improving infrastructure during elections. "Neither the MLA nor the MP has bothered to direct the authorities concerned to asphalt these roads," the resident complained.

> **The then MLA visited three months before elections, promised to improve roads, and the contractor removed asphalt, but no work has been done yet**
> – Prasanna Kumar, General secretary of Bhairaveshwara Nagar Residents' Association

The BWCC assistant executive engineer told BM he was not aware of the condition of the three roads. "If those roads were dug up by the BWSSB, it is the responsibility of the BWSSB engineer to restore them. I will try my best to asphalt these roads depending on the availability of funds," the assistant executive engineer said.

Speed up drain construction work near Kanteerava Stadium

Monsoon water logging at Kanteerava Stadium

Bengaluru Central City Corporation Commissioner Rajendra Cholan has instructed officials to expedite the completion of stormwater drain construction at Kanteerava Stadium on a priority basis. During an inspection across several areas within Corporation limits, he observed that the stadium and nearby zones face frequent waterlogging during rains. To mitigate this, the retaining wall height along the drain is being raised. He emphasised the need for swift completion, noting that the ongoing work inconveniences athletes and children using the facility.

Pothole repairs ordered

Commissioner Cholan directed officials to fill potholes and conduct asphalt resurfacing wherever roads are damaged within Central City limits.

He also instructed engineers to identify more stretches needing resurfacing and ensure timely completion. The Commissioner ordered a survey to list all unauthorised constructions within Corporation limits. He directed officials to remove such structures in phases and prevent future violations during construction approval.

Drainage issue fix

At Subrahmanya Shastry Road, Kumar Park (West), near Umesh Hotel, Cholan noticed drainage overflow damaging the road and causing public inconvenience. He instructed officials to take immediate measures to stop water flow and restore the stretch. **— BMB**

Flyover completion drive gains pace in Hosakerehalli

Hosakerehalli flyover near PES College 90% complete

BBMP West Zone Commissioner Dr Rajendra K V has directed officials to complete the remaining work on the Hosakerehalli Junction flyover within a week. The 500-metre flyover, located near PES College on the Outer Ring Road in Rajarajeshwari Nagar limits, is nearly 90% complete. Officials confirmed that asphalting on the central stretch and wet mix work on both sides are done, with only the final layer of asphalting pending. Painting and finishing works are also nearing completion. The Commissioner instructed officials to repair potholes, fix damaged sections on the service roads on either side, and remove all construction debris from the area.

Trial run next week

Once the remaining work is done, a vehicle trial run will be conducted next week before finalising the inauguration date for public opening. **— Iffath Fathima**

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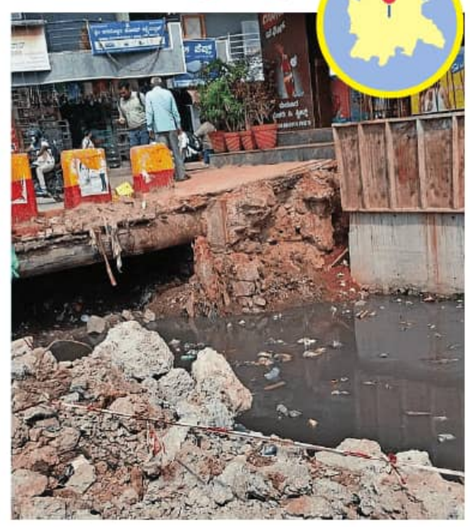
Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Neglect continues

Ramamurthy Nagar


An open stormwater drain near ITI Gate in Ramamurthy Nagar has remained uncleared for years, posing a serious safety hazard to residents and commuters.

Maintenance failure

D'Souza Road

Overgrown weeds and wild grass have covered D'Souza Road for over six months, leaving footpaths untidy and difficult to walk on.

Live danger

Vivek Nagar

A dangerous tangle of exposed electric cables on 4th Main Road in Vivek Nagar, between 4th and 5th Cross, remains unattended, posing a serious safety hazard.

Plaintiff retains right to start evidence, says court

In multi-issue suits, plaintiff leads evidence by default, except where burden lies on defendant, says court, while allowing man's petition challenging trial court's earlier order asking defendant to begin with evidence

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Relying on earlier precedents, Karnataka HC observes that there is no provision empowering court to compel defendant to lead evidence first unless he himself seeks to do so under specified circumstances

The Karnataka High Court has clarified that in a civil suit involving multiple issues, the right to begin leading evidence always rests with the plaintiff, even in cases where the burden of proving certain issues lies on the defendant.

Justice S Vishwajith Shetty made this observation while allowing a petition filed by a man named Deenanath, setting aside a trial court order that had permitted the plaintiffs to reserve their evidence and directed the defendant to begin first.

The court emphasised that under Order XVIII Rules 1 and 3 of the Civil Procedure Code (CPC), it is ordinarily the plaintiff who must first present evidence, unless the defendant admits the facts alleged by the plaintiff and raises a defence solely on a point of law or on additional facts.

"When there are several issues in a case, in respect of the issues where the burden is on the defendant to prove, the plaintiff can exercise the option provided under Rule 1. However, in respect of all other issues, the right to lead the evidence is always on the plaintiff," the court said.

The dispute arose from a partition suit filed by Chandrahas, where the plaintiffs submitted a memo stating that they had no evidence to present at that stage and wished to reserve their right to lead rebuttal evidence later. The trial court accepted this plea, asking the defendant to begin with his evidence.

Deenanath challenged this order, contending that the trial court had erred since the burden of proof for issues 1 and 3 lay on the plaintiffs, while only issue 2 was the defendant's responsibility.

Relying on the Bombay High Court's decision in Hagirath Shankar Somani & Anr v Rameshchandra Daulal Soni & Anr (2007), the Karnataka High Court observed that there is no provision under Order XVIII empowering a court to compel a defendant to lead evidence first unless he himself seeks to do so under the circumstances specified in Rule 1.

Setting aside the trial court's order, Justice Shetty directed that the plaintiffs must begin leading evidence on all issues except issue number 2. If they later wish to offer rebuttal evidence on that issue, the trial court may consider their request.

Young minds to shape climate future

The Climate Action Cell of the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) will host the 'Makkala Climate Action Sabhe 2025' on November 7 at Puttanna Chetty Town Hall, bringing together school and PU college students from across the city to shape Bengaluru's climate agenda.

Billed as the first city-wide youth-led climate platform, the event aims to build climate literacy, leadership, and problem-solving among young citizens. Students will present ideas and debates on various issues.

Preeti Gehlot, Special Commissioner, FECC, said the initiative aligns with the Bengaluru Climate Action Plan. "Climate Action Clubs are our city's most precious force for change. Through this Sabhe, we are giving young voices a platform to lead," she said. —BMB

JOBS FOR YOU YourCV

Children's Education Society (R)
THE OXFORD COLLEGE OF PHYSIOTHERAPY
6/9, 1ST Cross, Begur Road, Hongasandra, Bengaluru – 560 068

Applications are invited for the following positions
PRINCIPAL
PROFESSOR / ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR / ASST. PROFESSOR / LECTURER / TUTOR
Eligibility : As per the RGUHS Regulations
NON-ACADEMIC / NON-TEACHING POSITIONS
ACCOUNTS HEAD / INTERNAL AUDITOR : (Preferably CA), HR EXECUTIVES, OFFICE SUPERINTENDENTS, OFFICE ASSISTANTS, LAB TECHNICIANS, SYSTEM ADMIN, MAINTENANCE MANAGER / CIVIL ENGINEER, HOSTEL WARDENS (Male/Female).

Attractive remuneration commensurate with educational qualification, experience and job responsibilities.
Interested Candidates may send their resume along with academic Credentials by email to chairmanhr@theoxford.edu within 7 days.

The Oxford College of Physiotherapy www.theoxford.edu
Dr. SNVL Narasimha Raju
President

ADVERTORIAL

A Startup Park to Be Inaugurated in Bengaluru

India's first integrated innovation hub by Ique Ventures aims to nurture 10,000 startups and create 1 lakh jobs by 2030

BENGALURU: Bengaluru — India's undisputed startup capital — is set to witness the launch of the country's first Startup Park, a pioneering initiative by Ique Ventures that aims to reshape the future of entrepreneurship and innovation in Karnataka. The Park, conceptualized and driven by Mr. Shafi Shoukath, Chairman and CEO of Ique Ventures and Founder of Startup Park, will be inaugurated on November 7 by Shri D.K. Shivakumar, Deputy Chief Minister of Karnataka.

Envisioned as a one-stop ecosystem for entrepreneurs, the upcoming Startup Park seeks to make Karnataka the world's most founder-friendly state by 2030. It aims to nurture over 10,000 startups, create 1,00,000 jobs and attract - 50,000 crore in investments across the state's innovation and technology sectors.

Located on Hosur Road, Koramangala, the Park combines cutting-edge infrastructure with comprehensive support for founders — offering incubation, acceleration, mentorship, funding access, branding and global networking under one roof.

"Bengaluru has always been the heartbeat of India's startup story," said Mr. Shafi Shoukath ahead of the launch. "But our next leap will come not from scattered efforts,

but from building a strong, unified ecosystem. Startup Park is more than infrastructure — it's Karnataka's growth engine. Our vision is to empower founders, generate jobs and position Bengaluru as a global capital of innovation."

Incubation at the Core: At the heart of Startup Park lies its incubation program, which provides startups with hands-on mentorship, business strategy support, investor connections and access to global markets. From idea validation and prototype development to branding and investor readiness, the incubation model ensures every startup is equipped to scale sustainably.

Facilities include the Startup School, Investor Studio, Pitch Lab, Global Connect Lounge, Mentorship Hub and Co-working Spaces, along with creative zones such as Podcast Studios, Fab Labs, Green Studios, and a Wellness Zone — creating a vibrant and holistic environment for collaboration and innovation.

Startup TV- Giving Startups a Voice: In a first-of-its-kind initiative, Startup TV — a dedicated media platform for India's entrepreneurs — will operate from within the Park. The channel will spotlight startup success stories, innovations, and investor insights, amplifying the voices of emerging founders and helping them connect with audiences, partners and investors worldwide.

"The goal is not only to build startups but to tell their stories," added Mr. Shoukath. "Startup TV will bring visibility to India's innovators and inspire a new generation of entrepreneurs."

Empowering Karnataka's Future: Aligned with the Karnataka government's vision to build a global innovation hub, the Startup Park aims to decentralize startup opportunities by extending incubation and investment access beyond Bengaluru — empowering entrepreneurs across every district.

Industry experts believe this initiative will further strengthen Karnataka's position as India's innovation powerhouse and accelerate the state's economic and employment growth.

"The future doesn't arrive — it's built," said Mr. Shoukath. "And we are building it right here, in Bengaluru."

The Startup Park, powered by Ique Ventures, is not just an infrastructure project — it's a movement to redefine India's startup ecosystem and make "Built in Karnataka" a global badge of pride.

contactus@thestartuppark.com | www.thestartuppark.com
Address: Hosur Rd, Opp. Madiwala Traffic Police Station, Koramangala 2nd Block, Bengaluru, Karnataka – 560068

Tunnel project: Rs 800 crore set aside for land acquistion

Massive compensation planned as government readies ₹17,780-crore tunnel; HUDCO loan and PPP funding to power city's biggest underground mobility road venture

Sridhar.Vivan
@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

The proposed underground tunnel road in Bengaluru will require a staggering ₹800 crore solely for compensating private landowners, according to details tabled in the Legislative Council.

Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar informed the House that while 80% of the land required for the project is government-owned, one crucial stretch involves private property belonging to St. John's Hospital. Of the five proposed interchanges, four are on government land, while one falls under private ownership. The state plans to acquire private land mainly through the Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) mechanism. However, for owners unwilling to accept TDR, cash payouts will be made — amounting to around ₹800 crore in total. Survey work for the project is currently in progress.

According to the Detailed Project Report (DPR), the North–South Tunnel Road Project is estimated to cost ₹17,780 crore. The twin-tube tunnel will cost ₹1,062 crore per kilometre (₹531 crore for a single tube, inclusive of GST). The project will follow a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model, with 60% of the funding coming from private players and 40% from the government.

The government's share, totalling ₹9,303.66 crore, will be borrowed from HUDCO at an 8.95% interest rate, for which in-principle approval has already been granted. DPR preparation was awarded to Rodic Consultants Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi, at a cost of ₹9.45 crore for the North–South Corridor and ₹9.89 crore for the East–West Corridor. An Expression of Interest meeting was held on August 4, 2025, and the bidding process, along with land acquisition, traffic management, and environmental planning, is underway.

Planners outline traffic diversion, debris disposal, and tree transplantation strategies while the ₹17,780-crore underground corridor inches closer to execution

The North–South Tunnel Road project moves forward with ₹800 crore earmarked for private land acquisition, chiefly near St John's. DPR, bidding, and TDR-based acquisition plans are underway

Key Facts & Figures

- Total Project Cost: ₹**17,780** crore
- Corridor: North–South (Twin-tube tunnels)
- Cost per km: ₹**1,062** crore (twin tube); ₹531 crore (single tube, incl. GST)
- Funding Model: Public–Private Partnership (PPP)
- Private Sector Share: **60%** investment
- Government Share: **40%** investment
- Government Contribution: ₹9,303.66 crore (via HUDCO loan at 8.95% interest)
- Land Compensation: ₹800 crore (for private landowners)
- Land Ownership: **80%** government; **20%** private (mainly St. John's Hospital stretch)

Other Works Planned

- Land acquisition through TDR or cash payout
- Tree cutting and transplantation
- Traffic diversion planning
- Debris disposal and site management

Early winter chill grips Karnataka districts

An early winter chill has gripped Karnataka, with temperatures dipping sharply since early November under the influence of Cyclone Mongtha. Over ten districts — including Bengaluru, Mysuru, Hassan, Mandya, Chamarajanagar, Tumakuru, Shivamogga, Udupi, Dakshina Kannada, Uttara Kannada, Dharwad, and Belagavi — are witnessing noticeably colder mornings. In Bengaluru, residents have begun donning sweaters and woollen caps as the mercury continues to fall. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast colder-than-usual conditions this year, cautioning that parts of north Karnataka could experience coldwave conditions. Traditionally, winter sets in by late November or early December, but this year's early onset marks an unusual shift, with temperatures expected to drop further through December and January across both interior and coastal regions. **–BMB**

Wildlife board clears Kollegal water project

The State Board for Wildlife (SBWL), chaired by Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre, has approved several key environmental and infrastructure proposals, while tightening scrutiny on sensitive projects in Karnataka's forest areas.

The Board cleared a plan to provide drinking water connections to 291 residential areas in Kollegal taluk, Chamarajanagar district, involving diversion of 4.4 hectares of forest land. However, the proposal to install mobile towers in Attiveri, Sharavathi Singhalika, and Someshwara Wildlife Sanctuaries was deferred pending a detailed report on potential ecological impact.

Several road construction and reclamation projects within Sharavathi Singhalika Wildlife Sanctuary, the Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary Ecological Microzone, and Someshwara Wildlife Sanctuary received approval with a key condition — that designs must minimise disturbance to wildlife and ensure natural habitat continuity.

Emphasising stricter norms for projects in the Western Ghats, Khandre directed officials to ensure compliance with existing guidelines and mandate risk mitigation plans for infrastructure works, especially after recent landslides in Shirur. He also asked for periodic audits of ongoing works to prevent ecological violations.

Separately, Khandre ordered a CID probe into the Bedaguli forest incident in the BRT Tiger Reserve, where individuals allegedly photographed and touched three tiger cubs using vehicle headlights, violating wildlife laws. **–BMB**

Licence to create a row

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

she had to shift her 91-year-old mother to a relative's house in Kothanur.

Residents say that trucks arrive one after another during late night hours and employees often talk loudly while shifting crates. "I was diagnosed with cancer and I cannot relocate just because of this nuisance. When we informed the police officials, we were asked to call 112 only to see that the cops would just come and do nothing about it," she said.

Along with the trucks, frequent movement of delivery bikes through the narrow road adds to the noise and traffic chaos, residents say. "They use plastic crates, which are thrown in and out of the vehicle. The boys working there talk loudly and scream at each other as well. After they are done unloading a truck, they all sit out, laughing and joking while they have a 'community smoke'. There are 4 to 5 trucks which come one after the other every night. Alongside this are the many 2-wheeler borne 'delivery agents' who are in and out continuously during the night," she said.

According to residents of area, the outlet has a licence for 'loading and unloading', which the operators very proudly show off to anyone who complains about it, including the police

According to the residents, the centre has a licence for 'loading and unloading', which the operators very proudly show off to anyone who complains about it, including the police.

"We have made several efforts to contact the company higher officials but to no avail. Once I had to personally go down at 2 am and stop them from doing any work," she said.

Another long-time resident of the street said locals have raised the issue at multiple police meetings. Police have visited the spot multiple times but the problem returns the next night. "We have taken up the issue at monthly meets at the station, annual meets and the conferences with the cops," they said.

Locals alleged the hub staff have even told them to move if they find the operations inconvenient. "This is a residential area and most of us have lived here for more than 50 to 70 years. We own houses here. Why do we leave our houses? Nobody has the right to speak to us that way with the nuisance they are creating. It is totally unfair," the resident stressed.

A resident of the area said even managers just offer assurances. "But the noise continues and every now and then the managers keep changing so how many times do we keep approaching them?"

KSLU confers honorary doctorate on Andhra Guv

The Karnataka State Law University on Wednesday conferred an honorary doctorate on Andhra Pradesh Governor S Abdul Nazeer.

The governor was awarded the honorary Doctor of Laws degree during the university's seventh convocation held at the Farmers' Knowledge Centre, University of Agricultural Sciences, in Dharwad.

"The Karnataka State Law University conferred an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws on S Abdul Nazeer, Governor of Andhra Pradesh," said a press release. Karnataka Governor and KSLU Chancellor Thaawarchand Gehlot presented the academic honour to Nazeer. The event was also attended by Minister for Law, Justice, Parliamentary Affairs and Legislation H K Patil, who is also the Pro-Chancellor of the university, among others. In his address, Nazeer thanked the Karnataka State Law University for conferring on him the Doctor of Laws degree, the release added. **–PTI**

Wildlife at risk as hydel project near protected sanctuary gets nod

Mini hydroelectric project in Kodagu sparks alarm, threatening biodiversity, elephant corridors, and the ecological balance of Western Ghats forests and waterfalls

INFOCUS
HABITAT THREAT

A hydroelectric project proposed across the Kumaradhara River in the Western Ghats region of Karnataka has raised several concerns among conservationists.

Experts say the area earmarked for the project lies close to Pushpagiri Wildlife Sanctuary, an important elephant habitat and home to several species listed under Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act of 1972.

The proposed project site is located approximately 2.5 km from the sanctuary's boundary and appears to fall within its Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ), as notified on 28 June 2017.

Experts note that the region is already experiencing severe habitat fragmentation due to multiple infrastructure projects, unregulated tourism, and mini hydroelectric projects. If approved, the proposed project could further disrupt elephant corridors, threaten the survival of key species, and exacerbate ongoing human–elephant conflict, which has become a major challenge in Kodagu.

Notably, the project requires the diversion of 2.8045 hectares of forest land in Somwarpet Taluk, Kodagu.

While the proposal is presently pending with the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Madikeri Division, for examination and recommendation, a wildlife conservationist has written to the DCF requesting that the proposal be rejected on ecological and legal grounds.

Conservationist Giridhar Kulkarni has emphasised that the project area forms part of the ecologically fragile Western Ghats, which are witnessing increasing incidents of landslides, deforestation, and biodiversity loss.

"The proposal also lies close to the Mallalli Waterfalls, a renowned natural attraction. Any alteration to the river flow or surrounding vegetation may impact this waterfall and its delicate ecosystem. In the past, the State Forest Department submitted an affidavit to the Karnataka High Court stating that no new mini hydroelectric projects would be permitted in the Western Ghats of Karnataka. The Court accepted this undertaking, and around ten proposed mini hydroelectric projects in the region were cancelled," says Kulkarni.

He further stresses that, in light of the Court's judgment, any new mini hydroelectric project in the Western Ghats would violate the commitment made before the Court and run contrary to the State's conservation policy.

"The Forest Clearance Proposal for the project should be recommended for rejection. The DCF should forward the proposal with a recommendation for rejection to higher authorities, in the broader interest of conserving the Western Ghats and protecting wildlife habitats," Kulkarni noted in his written objection to the proposed project. —**BMB**

AROUNDTHEWORLD

Democrats celebrate victories, Mamdani win hailed

Top Democrats, including former Presidents Bill Clinton and Barack Obama, have hailed the electoral success of Zohran Mamdani and other party leaders, calling it a victory of forward-looking leaders who care about the issues that matter.

Democrats dominated the first major election since President Donald Trump returned to the White House in January this year.

Democratic socialist Zohran Mamdani pulled off a stunning victory in the New York City mayoral elections, while his party colleague Mikie Sherrill was elected New Jersey governor. Another Democrat, Abigail Spanberger, became Virginia's governor, while India-born Ghazala Hashmi has been elected as her deputy.

Meanwhile, the Indian-origin mayor of Cincinnati, Ohio, Aftab Pureval won a second term defeating Republican challenger Cory Bowman, the half-brother of Vice President JD Vance, local media reported.

Pureval's Tuesday victory cements Democrats' control of Cincinnati's local government and adds to Pureval's growing profile in Ohio politics, Fox News reported on Tuesday. **Agencies**

Kalmaegi leaves 85 dead

Typhoon Kalmaegi has left at least 85 people dead with 75 others missing in the central Philippines, many in widespread flooding that trapped people on their roofs and swept away cars in a hard-hit province still recovering from a deadly earthquake, officials said Wednesday.

Among the dead were six people who were killed when a Philippine air force helicopter crashed in the southern province of Agusan del Sur on Tuesday. The crew was on its way to provide humanitarian help to provinces battered by Kalmaegi, the military said. It did not give the cause of the crash.

Kalmaegi blew away from western Palawan province into the South China Sea before noon Wednesday with sustained winds of up to 130 kph (81 mph) and gusts of up to 180 kph (112 mph), according to forecasters. **AP**

EU okays 'weakened' climate deal

The European Union said on Wednesday it would slash carbon emissions by 90 per cent by 2040, in an agreement widely seen as a weakening of the 27-nation bloc's previous climate goals, after an overnight debate ahead of the UN climate conference in Brazil.

Hungary, Slovakia and Poland voted against the agreement, despite other nations agreeing to key compromises, including allowing flexibility for member states to buy carbon credits internationally to reach their emissions targets and for the EU to reassess its climate policy depending on economic performance. The agreement also allows for postponing a new carbon trading plan covering transport and heating, a central demand of Poland.

Environmentalists criticised the deal for provisions that will allow the EU to buy carbon credits from less-developed countries, effectively outsourcing the bloc's obligations. **AP**

SPORTS BRIEF

Diageo out? RCB under review

Diageo's India arm will begin a strategic review of its investment in a unit which owns the Indian Premier League cricket team 'Royal Challengers Bengaluru', the spirits maker said on Wednesday as it focuses on its core alcohol business.

United Spirits Ltd sells brands such as "Royal Challenge" whisky and "Smirnoff" vodka. It has benefited from affluent Indians splurging on premium products including high-priced liquor to watches and jewellery.

RCB competes in the men's Indian Premier League and Women's Premier League, annual cricket tournaments hosted by the Board of Control for Cricket in India. Earlier this year, the men's team won its first IPL title in the history of the tournament, while the women's team won its title in 2024. Royal Challengers Sports is a valuable but non-core asset," CEO Praveen Someshwar said, adding the firm will review its India portfolio. **Reuters**

Shami ignored, Pant back

Star wicketkeeper-batter Rishabh Pant on Wednesday made a much-anticipated return to India's Test squad for the upcoming two-match home series against South Africa but the selectors chose to ignore pacer Mohammed Shami yet again, putting a question mark over the senior pacer's career.

Pant expectedly made a comeback to international cricket after recovering from a foot fracture, sustained during the fourth Test against England in Manchester in July. He was forced out of the following series against the West Indies.

The 26-year-old batter, who led India A to victory over South Africa A with a 90-run innings, replaces N Jagadeesan and will be Shubhman Gill's deputy. **PTI**

SOCIALTATTLE

That went viral

A video shared by @ashkarna shows a biker narrowly escaping being hit by a bus, highlighting how many two-wheeler riders, often in a hurry, risk their lives with reckless riding on city roads.

Amit Kulkarni
@ashkarna
Follow
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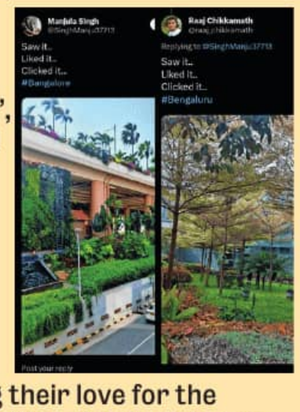
What's Tweeting



"Saw it... Liked it... Clicked it...", this viral trend on X is taking over as people share random, yet beautiful, pictures of the city, capturing moments and expressing their love for the surroundings with a simple, relatable caption. It's becoming a fun way to celebrate the city's charm one snapshot at a time. Several users were seen sharing posts captioned the same.

Bangalore Mirror tagged

A user @Dragonstonelx tagging @BangaloreMirror highlighted how school/college buses block the roads during morning hours, an issue that should definitely be addressed. This issue has been highlighted by many users on social media, with many pointing out the lack of responsibility from both the schools and traffic authorities, especially near school/college zones.

Prajwal HM
@Dragonstonelx
Follow
Replying to @Dragonstonelx @micolyttrfps and 7 ot
Both the college and the traffic police have no responsibility or regard. utter shame. @BangaloreMirror 5th November. #brandbengaluru

Japan army to counter surge in bear attacks

Japan deployed troops Wednesday to the northern prefecture of Akita to help contain a surge of bear attacks that have terrorised residents in the mountainous region.

Reports of unexpected encounters with bears are now being reported almost daily ahead of hibernation season as the bears forage for food. The animals have been seen roaming near schools, train stations, supermarkets and even at a hot springs resort.

Some of the encounters have resulted in injuries and even human deaths. The growing bear population's encroachment into residential areas is happening in a region with a rapidly ageing and declining human population.

Since April, more than 100 people have been injured and at least 12 killed in bear attacks across Japan, according to Environment Ministry statistics at the end of October. **AP**

Lethal dose of antibiotics in water bodies

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Researchers conducted the analysis on 30 water samples collected from the given 15 locations in August and September of 2024, and the assessment indicates widespread pollution due to pharmaceutical contaminants that may pose risks to aquatic ecosystems and public health. The antibiotic pollution levels were found to vary from medium risk to high risk.

While ciprofloxacin, with levels as high as 8.858 µg/L, was detected consistently in all 15 locations except one, a high concentration of sulfamethoxazole (171.16 µg/L) was recorded in Bellandur Lake. Higher than permissible levels of sulfamethoxazole were also found in groundwater in Jaynagar, apart from Halasuru and Hoodi Lakes.

The antibiotic levels were much higher than the safe thresholds (less than 0.001µg/L) recommended by WHO to prevent selection for resistance and the AMR watch list, which is usually<0.1–1.0 µg/L for environmental protection).> less than 0.1 to 1.0 µg/L.

In our water

High-risk exposure to Sulfamethoxazole has been identified in an STP of an apartment complex near Bellandur, apart from groundwater samples collected from Indiranagar, Jaynagar, Nagasandra, Electronic City, and Cubbon Park. Halasuru, Hoodi, Bellandur, Hebbal, and Basavanapura lakes, apart from tap water in a prominent private hospital on Bannerghatta Road, have also been classified as high-risk exposure sites.

While erythromycin, in high-risk exposure levels, has been found in the tap water supply of a private hospital on HAL Main Road, an STP of an apartment complex near Bellandur, Basavanpur lake, and another hospital on Bannerghatta Road, amoxicillin was found in the water supply of the hospital on HAL Main Road, in Bellandur STP, groundwater samples from Kengeri and Nagasandra, along with in Halasuru and Hoodi lakes.

Higher levels of ciprofloxacin were recorded at all 15 locations except in the water supply at Bannerghatta Road.

Researchers also noted that the detected concentrations of these antibiotics are higher than values reported previously, indicating a growing contamination.

"Drug-resistant infections are threatened due to the environment caused by the high levels of erythromycin, ciprofloxacin, amoxicillin, sulfamethoxazole, and trimethoprim. Since such antibiotics alter microbial communities and lower biodiversity, prolonged exposure could disturb aquatic ecosystems. Also, residues from antibiotics have the potential to bioaccumulate within aquatic organisms, possibly enabling them to enter their way into the food chain and leading to individuals exposed to contaminated seafood and potable water," researchers have noted.

The study was carried out by researchers from JSS Academy of Higher Education and Research in Mysore, PESU Institute of Pharmacy in Electronic City, Vignan Pharmacy College in Andhra Pradesh, Government Arts and Science College in Karwar, National Research and Innovation Agency in Indonesia, Manav Rachna International Institute of Research and Studies in Haryana, Prince Sattam Bin Abdulaziz University and King Khalid University in Saudi Arabia, and GREENS TRUST in Tumakuru.

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, Cheryl Ann Gallyot W/o Ferdinand Gallyot R/o Flat No 302, Monte Tabor Apartment, 3rd Cross, Dr Sridhars Road, Bds Nagar, K Narayanapura, Kothanur Post, Bengaluru - 560077 Have Changed My Name to Cheryl Gallyot for All Purposes.

I, MAHMOODA AKHTER residing at # No .18, 2nd Floor B Type Robertson Road Frazer Town Bangalore – 560005. I have changed my name to MEHMOODA AKHTER. Vide affidavit dated 04/11/2025 sworn before notary. Leela Bengaluru

I, Rekha.H, w/o Manjunatha Kali R/at #21, Dhanya Nilaya, Near Government School, Sadaramangala, Kadugodi Plantation, Bengaluru-560067, Karnataka, have changed my name to Rekha Manjunatha Kali for all purposes.

I, Suthar Harsh Mukeshbhai S/ Mukeshbhai Suthar R/o B5-1003, Sandeep Vihar, Kannamangala, Whitefield, Bengaluru 560067 have changed my name to Harsh Suthar Affidavit Dt.05/11/2025 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, Anaida R/o No 1705 5th Cross 1st Stage Hbr Layout Bangalore 560043 Have Changed My name From Chinmayi Ramesh Rao to Anaida for All Purposes.

I, Abdul Nabi R/o No 19/7 5 Th Cross Muslim Colony Byrasandra Jayanagar Bangalore 560011 Have Changed my name from Gulam Nabi to Abdul Nabi for All Purposes.

I, M SRINIVASA, S/o Mariyappa, Valmikinagara, Nelamangala, Bengaluru Rural - 562123, have changed my name from M SRINIVASA to M Srinivas, at Bengaluru for all purposes.

I Venkatesha S/o Venkataramu R/o # 4, 306 Pride Sunrise Apts, Pride Vatika Gate, Community Bukkasagara Jigani, B'luru-560083 have changed my name to Venkatesh for all purposes.

I, Zuber Shariff Thair Shariff, s/o Thair Shariff, R/o No-52, SMK Building, 19th Cross, 20th Main, SMS Layout, J.P Nagar 5th Phase, B'luru-560078 have Changed my name to Zuber Shariff for all Purposes.

I Neyeem Pasha S/O, Mubarak Pasha R/o #43, Oil Mill Road, Arvind Nagar, Bangalore have changed my name to Nayeem Pasha.

I, Afeeen Khanam R D/o Rafi khan Residing at : Kodaballi village vpurakshipura Channapatna Ramanagar 562138 have changed my name to Afreen Khanum for all purposes

I Uma Shankar R/o Indavara, 4th Cross, Jayanagara, Chikmagalur-577101 Have Changed My Name to Uma Indavara Byregowda Shankar I Shall Be Called by This Name for All Purpose.

I, Shahid Mohammed, S/o Pyarejan, R/o Bangalore, Karnataka, have changed my name from Babu P to Shahid Mohammed via court order (O.S.NO.5905/2024) for all future purposes.

I, Afroz Bano, W/o Mohammed Maqdoom R/o 5/9, Rawoof Arcade, Church road, Basavanagudi, Bangalore have changed my name to Afroz Banu for all future purposes.

I, Kewal Kant, R/O D016, Brigade Parkside East, Chikkakannalli, Bengaluru - 560035 have changed my daughter name (minor) from Ridhima to Ridhima Sharma.

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Special award
Helen Mirren to be honoured with Cecil B DeMille Award at Golden Globes 'Golden Eve' Special

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Shooting begins

The shooting of Sri Murali-starrer Parak has begun in Mysuru. Halesh Kogundi debuts as an independent director in Sandalwood with this movie. Halesh, in association with his brother, is bankrolling Parak under the Brand Studios banner. Well-known action director Ravi Varma is on board for the movie.

"Parak went on floors three days ago in Mysuru. My passion towards movies made me quit my engineering job and write the script for this movie," said Kogundi.

He said that he did not join a film institute for training in direction or work as assistant or associate director. "I handled the megaphone for three days in Mysuru for this movie. It was a wonderful experience. We are planning to shoot the movie for 18 days in Bengaluru. The movie's shooting is expected to be completed in 85 days. We may visit rural areas and Ramoji Film City in Hyderabad for shooting," he said.

The director said the movie's script was okayed by Sri Murali three years ago. "The delay in release of Sri Murali's movie Bagheera was the one of the reasons for me to start shooting of Parak only now," the director said. He said they will finalise on the lead actress soon.

Writer is now director

State award-winning writer Raghu Kovi debuts as director in Sandalwood with Ruby. Kovi is known for writing the script for Krishna Leela. The motion poster of Ruby was unveiled at MMB Legacy recently. RP Patnaik is the music director for this movie.

Actor Ram Gowda said that the script was very interesting. "I am happy to act in a movie that has music by RP Patnaik. The entire team of the movie has worked hard. The producer did not compromise with quality," said Gowda.

Stating that Ruby is based on a real incident in Hyderabad, debutant director Kovi thanked the producers for giving him an opportunity to realise his long-cherished dream of becoming a director.

"I am very lucky to have music director RP Patnaik on board. Ram Gowda is known for his passion for movies. The movie has five songs. Around 50 percent of the shooting is completed," the director said.

Music director Patnaik said he agreed to score music because of the script. "The movie is set to join the list of good films in Sandalwood as its script is very interesting. Ram and Vaibhavi, the lead pair, have acted well," the music director said.

No holds barred

Bollywood stars who conquered Tollywood with powerful roles

Kriti Sanon

Kriti Sanon began her acting career with the Telugu psychological thriller 1: Nenokkadine, starring opposite Mahesh Babu. Her confident debut performance, expressive charm, and screen presence resonated with Telugu audiences. The film marked her entry into the industry, laying the groundwork for her later success in Bollywood, where she evolved into one of the most dependable, talented, and admired actresses in contemporary Indian cinema.

Shraddha Kapoor

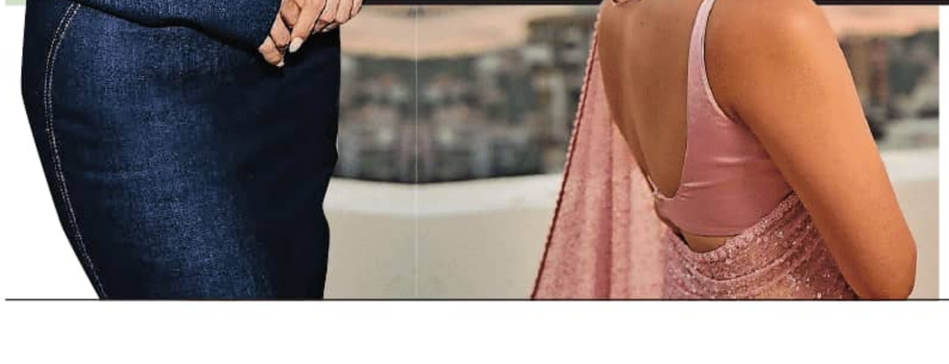
Shraddha Kapoor achieved widespread recognition in the Telugu-Hindi bilingual blockbuster Saaho, co-starring Prabhas. The high-octane action film showcased her adaptability, balancing glamour with strength and confidence. Her performance introduced her to South Indian fans, earning appreciation for professionalism and effort in mastering the dual-language production. The project elevated her status as a versatile, pan-Indian performer capable of blending seamlessly across cinematic cultures.

Tamannaah Bhatia

Tamannaah Bhatia continues to reign across Indian cinema, with iconic roles in Baahubali, F2: Fun and Frustration, and several acclaimed Telugu hits. Her dynamic performances, dance prowess, and stylish presence have earned her immense admiration. Transitioning effortlessly between Tollywood and Bollywood, she embodies pan-Indian appeal, balancing commercial success with artistic credibility while remaining one of the most consistent and beloved stars in modern Indian entertainment.

Kangana Ranaut

Kangana Ranaut gained acclaim in South Indian cinema with Thalaivii, where she portrayed Tamil Nadu's former Chief Minister J Jayalalithaa. Her dedication to embodying the iconic figure, both physically and emotionally, drew praise from critics and audiences alike. The performance showcased her versatility and fearless approach, helping her connect with new regional audiences while reinforcing her reputation as one of India's most dynamic and committed performers.



Alia Bhatt

Alia Bhatt impressed Telugu audiences with her poised performance as Sita in RRR, directed by SS Rajamouli. Though her role was brief, it was impactful, bringing elegance and emotional depth to the story. Her inclusion in the epic elevated her profile among southern audiences, establishing her as a truly pan-Indian actress admired for her versatility, subtle expression, and effortless grace across languages.

Hair today, gone tomorrow

Hollywood star Sydney Sweeney is conscious after trading her long locks with bob cut. The actress said that she feels her "security blanket" is gone after cutting her hair.

The 28-year-old actress admitted she was a "little nervous" about such a drastic change of style, reports 'Female First UK'.

Asked if she loved the new hairdo right away, she told 'The Hollywood Reporter', "No. It was a huge change. I was a little nervous. I think my long hair became my security blanket. I always wanted it down and wavy, but I'm loving this. I feel like I'm going to meet a new version of myself".

As per 'Female First UK', she admitted the new style came from her hairstylist Glen Coco Oropeza, who is someone she trusts with her signature looks.

She went on, "So my hair stylist, Glen Coco, wanted to be able to start doing something different and I'm his little science experiment. I love him so much, I let him cut and colour my hair".

Meanwhile, Sydney has insisted she wasn't affected by the American Eagle controversy after starring in the brand's 'Great Jeans' advertisements, which were accused of glorifying her white heritage and physique. She told GQ magazine, "I did a jean ad. I mean, the reaction definitely was a surprise, but I love jeans. All I wear are jeans. I'm literally in jeans and a T-shirt every day of my life... I knew at the end of the day what that ad was for, and it was great jeans, it didn't affect me one way or the other".

The 'Anyone But You' star never considered addressing the backlash as she doesn't want others to "define" her.

— IANS

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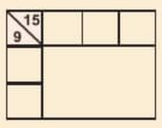
SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

$8^{12} * 32^{3} * 16^{2} * \sqrt{256} = 2^{a}$

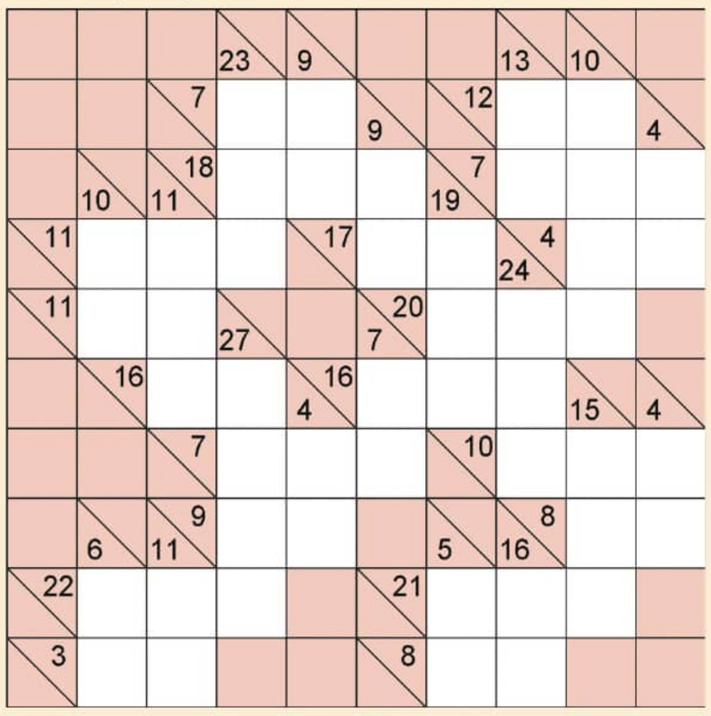
a=?

Kakuro

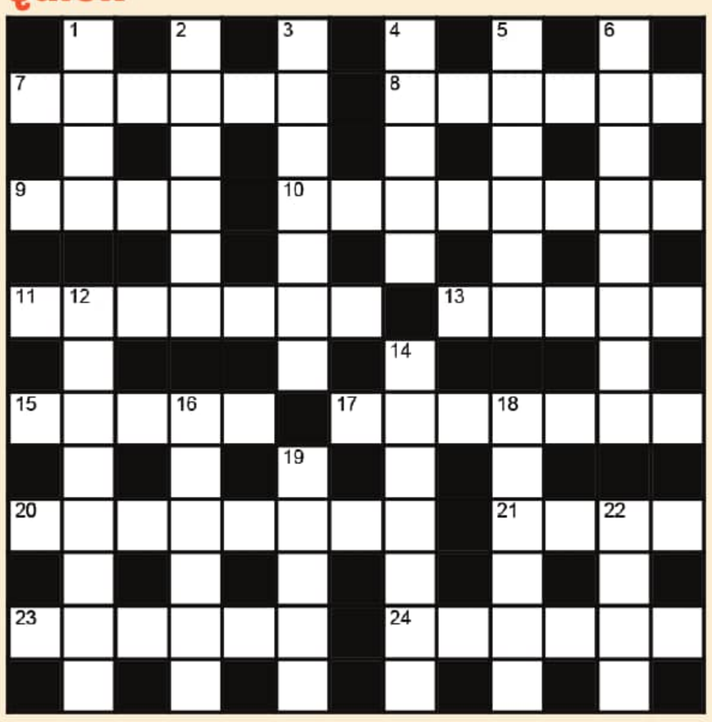
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Superficial (6)
8 Hindu hermitage (6)
9 Republic of Ireland (4)
10 Shrub with large white flowers (8)
11 Pen something for somebody, should we say? (5,2)
13 Fixes or repairs (5)
15 Light oar for one hand (5)
17 Letter (7)
20 Popular word-building board game (8)
21 Death column, in short (4)
23 In truth–"secret" anagram? (6)
24 Kabul native (6)

DOWN

1 Indian language of yore (4)
2 Most urgent or desperate (6)
3 Change the order of, in a way (7)
4 Emblem or sign; indication (5)
5 Make a selection (6)
6 1983 World Cup winning captain (5,3)
12 Converts waste material into re-usable form (8)
14 Market near Brigade Road (7)
16 Makeshift shed (4-2)
18 Stool pigeon (6)
19 Humble or shame (5)
22 Mosque leader (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: G EQUALS D

SA XZHG U XUWYS ZM RUMN; SA GA ORSSRP DUN OR GZXXZJWYS.

Linemaro

I can't stop staring at you

Mind chow

Let the wife make the husband glad to come home, and let him make her sorry to see him leave

Joke of the day

The Americans are a funny lot; they drink whiskey to keep them warm, then they put ice in it to make it cool; then they put some sugar in it to make it sweet and then they put a slice of lemon in it to make it sour, then they say, "Here's to you" and drink it themselves

Loop

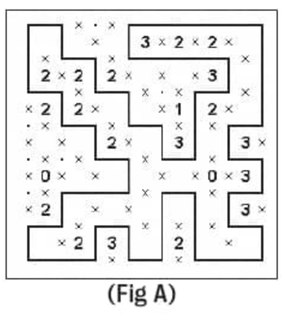
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

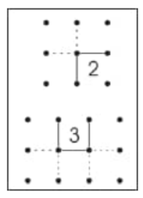
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

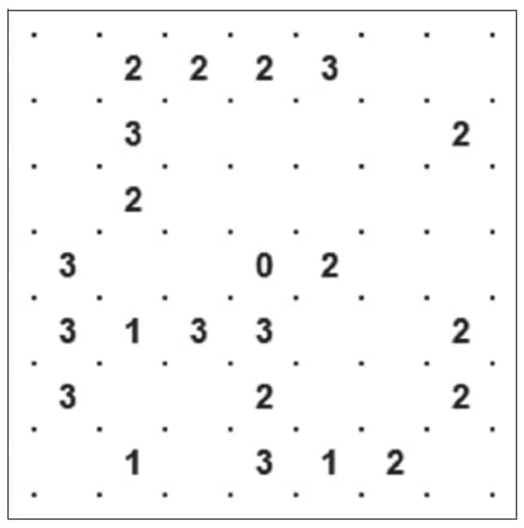
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



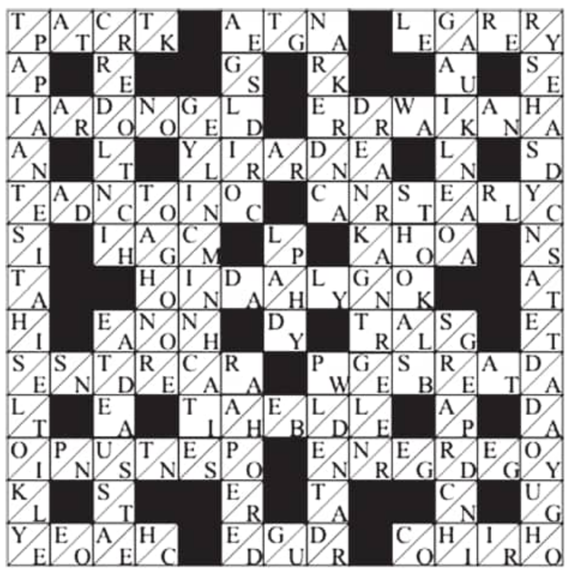
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



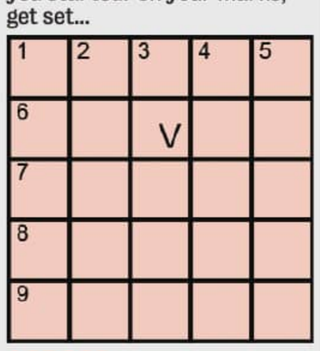
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

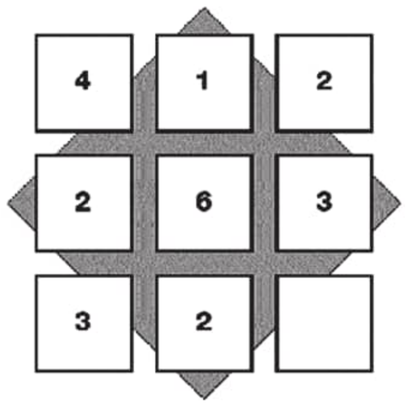
1 Salvo; 6 U veer;
7 Maine; 8 As LAN;
9 Slogs

DOWN

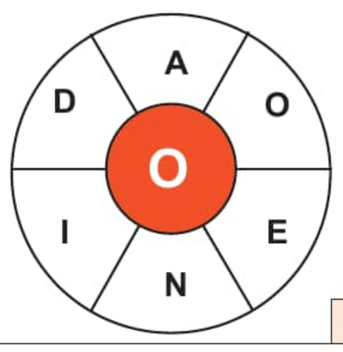
1 Organ; 2 Navel;
3 Via so; 4 A slum;
5 Seles

Mensapuzzle

Which number goes in the empty box?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

04 Average; **05** Good; **06** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

	1		8		6		3	
		7				9		
8	6						4	1
1		6	2		9	3		7
4		2	6		7	5		9
5	4						7	2
		3				1		
	8		7		4		9	

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 23

4 5 6 8

Medium = 5

1 4 8 9

Hard = 13

4 5 6 8

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

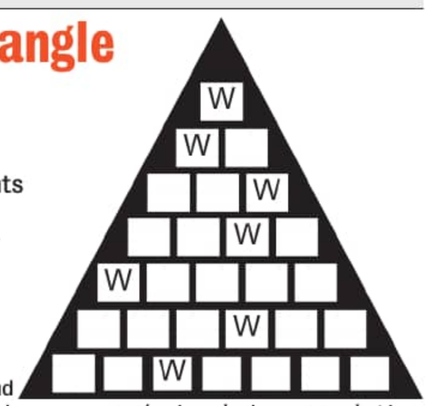
Differences: 1. Man is shorter. 2. Bottom of shirt is different. 3. Putter is different. 4. Golf bag is larger. 5. Tree is moved. 6. Hat is larger.

Riddler

What phrase is represented below?
JG UN MI PP IM NU GJ Good New New

Alpha triangle

1 Watt, abbr.
2 Wife of, abbr.
3 Sty dweller
4 Uses oars
5 Language elements
6 Sleep a little
7 Disappointments informally

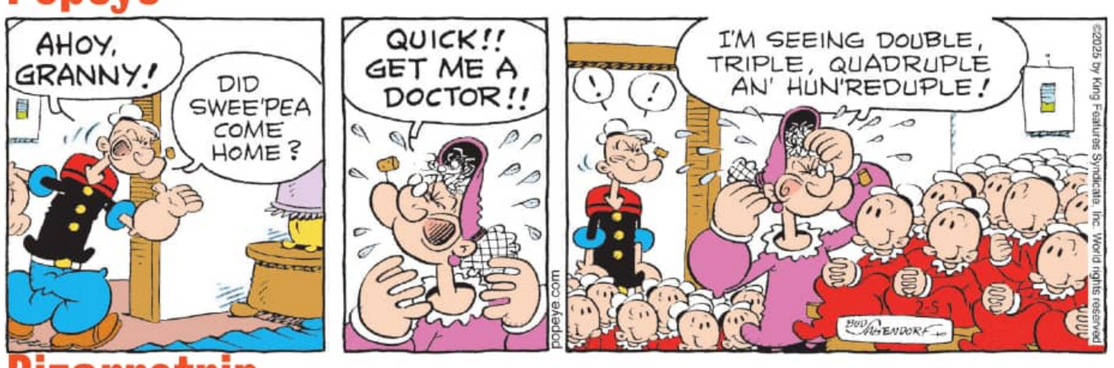


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

COMICS

Popeye



Bizarrotrip

I don't belong here. Everyone knows I'm not a real punctuation mark. Sooner or later, someone will expose me.
'89 a
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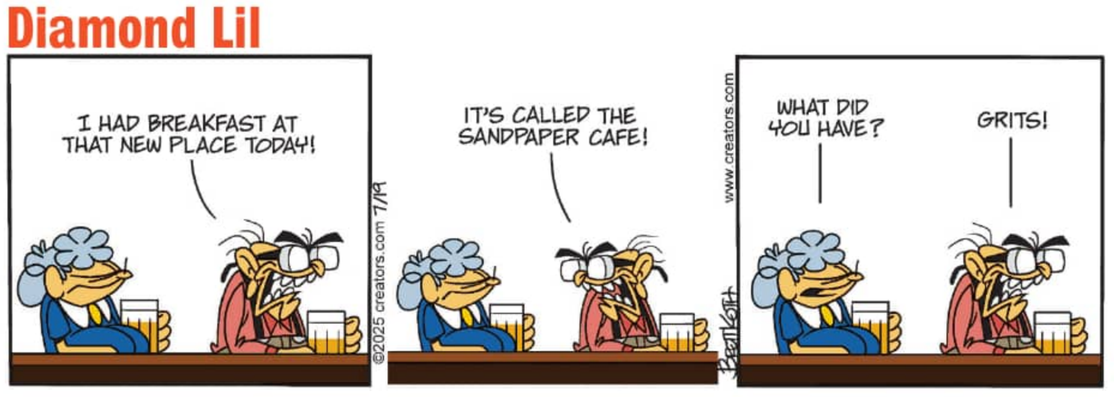
IMPOSTROPHE SYNDROME

Diamond Lil



Hart of the city

LOOK WHAT WE'RE DOING THIS YEAR!! I'M GONNA APPLY FOR EVERY ROLE.
RIDLEY CREEK PERFORMING ARTS CAMP PRESENTS
ROMEO AND JULIET
YOU'RE GONNA BE AUDITIONING ALL DAY IF YOU DO THAT.
HEART OF THE CITY © 2025 ANDREWS MCMEEL
SO WHAT? I'M AT THEATER CAMP. IF THERE'S A TIME TO GO ALL OUT, IT'S NOW!
I'M COVERING ALL MY BASES.
HMM... MAYBE HEART IS ONTO SOMETHING.
SPLASH
@GOCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft

I JUST REALIZED... IF YOU'RE GOING TO GO WITH JEFF TO CANADA TO THE WINNIPEG BLUE BOMBERS GAME...
YOU'RE GOING TO NEED TO GET A PASSPORT!
NO PROBLEM... I'VE GOT ONE.
YOU DO!?
ABSOLUTELY... YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN YOU MIGHT WANT TO HAVE DINNER IN PARIS!
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7-28

Mutts

WRITTEN IN THE STARS

DR SUNDEEP KOCHAR

If it's your birthday today

A necessary change in career direction early on is ultimately very profitable; trust your gut feeling. Finances remain strong throughout the year, provided you maintain a strict budget. Love is vibrant and fun, but clarity is required on shared future plans. A sibling or close family member o ers vital, timely support.

Aries Mar 21–Apr 20

You're still processing recent chaos; pause and reflect. Notice where you resist change or repeat patterns. Release what no longer serves you and consciously rewrite your story toward healing and personal growth.

Taurus Apr 21–May 20

Detach from external validation and rediscover life's simple joys. Be fully present and celebrate your resilience. You've overcome so much; today, honour your journey and appreciate the beautiful progress you've made.

Gemini May 21–Jun 21

Confidence radiates through you today. Express yourself freely and play with your style. Your authenticity uplifts others. Find beauty in small moments and let creativity guide your joyful self-expression.

Cancer Jun 22–July 23

Express emotions without guilt; your truth matters. Reconnect with learning or exploration to expand your horizons. Align choices with personal desires, not expectations, and allow authentic connection to shape your path.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23

Choose growth over resentment. See every challenge and person as a teacher guiding your evolution. Release victimhood, rediscover your strength, and prepare for transformative breakthroughs as new energy emerges.

Virgo Aug 24–Sep 23

Face change with courage and grace. Let go of needing others' understanding; everyone carries unseen battles. Patience and resilience will guide you through this transformative phase with quiet confidence

Libra Sep 24–Oct 22

Embrace joy and let your radiance shine. Confidence blooms as you celebrate love and life. Share your gifts openly; the world benefits when your authentic light brightens the collective spirit.

Scorpio Oct 23–Nov 22

New doors open; walk through them fearlessly. Trust your worth and don't settle. Personal growth accelerates when courage leads. Carry confidence, and use tiger's eye energy to strengthen selfbelief.

Sagittarius Nov 23–Dec 22

Accept that change is constant and endings are illusions. Release attachments gracefully and trust the flow. Every goodbye makes space for new beginnings and deeper spiritual understanding.

Capricorn Dec 23–Jan 20

You're being handed a true fresh start. Step forward boldly, regardless of age or circumstance. Faith and persistence break old limits; your moment to shine and rebuild begins now.

Aquarius Jan 21–Feb 19

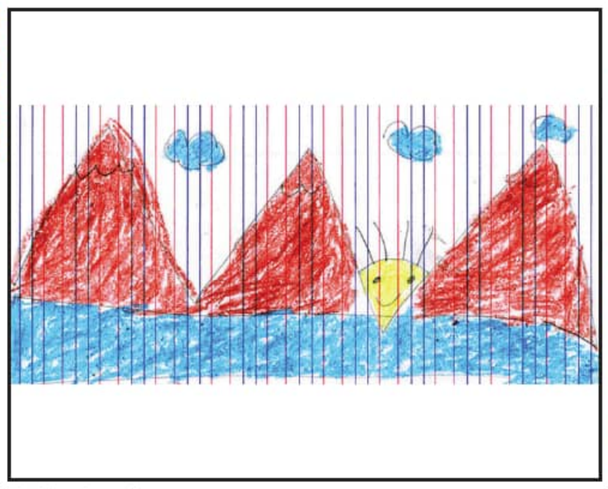
Stop striving for perfection or approval. Listen to your inner child's needs and nurture yourself with kindness. Prioritise rest and self-love; you deserve the care you so freely give others.

Pisces Feb 20–Mar 20

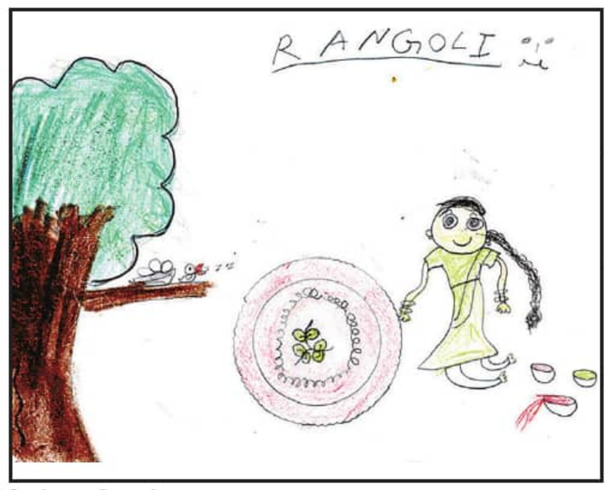
Let go of worrying about others' opinions. Follow your convictions boldly, even if misunderstood. Breaking free from expectations empowers your evolution; your future self will thank you for this courage

www.sundeepkochar.com

KIDZONE



Thahirr, Bengaluru



Sanjanna, Bengaluru

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M

$2^{36} \cdot 2^{15} \cdot 2^{8} \cdot 2^{4} = 2^{a}$
$2^{63} = 2^{a}$
$a = 63$

STRIKE OUT

P	A	C	K		A	G	A		E	G	E	R		
A		R		S		R		U		E				
I	R	O	N	E	D		E	D	W	I	N	A		
N		T		L	I	A	N	A		N		D		
T	A	C	T	I	C		A	R	T	E	R	Y		
S		H	A	M		P		K	O	A		S		
T		H	I	D	A	L	G	O				T		
H		E	O	N		Y		R	L	S		E		
E	N	D	E	A	R		P	E	S	E	T	A		
L		E		T	A	B	L	E		A		D		
I	N	S	T	E	P		E	N	E	R	G	Y		
L		S		E		A		C		G				
Y	E	A	H		D	U	D		O	H	I	O		

QUICK

MENSA PUZZLE

4. Numbers in each column add up to 9.

QUOTE UNCODE

To find a fault is easy; to do better may be difficult.

RIDDLER

Jumping up and down over good news

SUDOKU

9	1	4	8	7	6	2	3	5
3	2	7	4	1	5	9	6	8
8	6	5	3	9	2	7	4	1
1	5	6	2	4	9	3	8	7
7	9	8	5	3	1	4	2	6
4	3	2	6	8	7	5	1	9
5	4	9	1	6	3	8	7	2
6	7	3	9	2	8	1	5	4
2	8	1	7	5	4	6	9	3

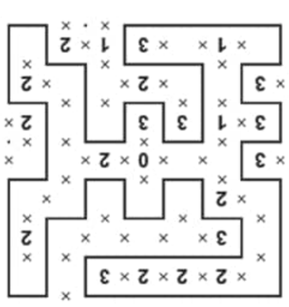
ALPHA TRIANGLE

W, WO, SOW, ROWS, WORDS, DROWSE, DOWNERS.

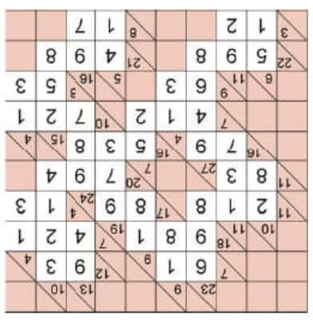
GO FIGURE

Easy
5 + 4 + 8 + 6 = 23
Medium
9 − 8 / 1 + 4 = 5
Hard
8 − 5 + 6 + 4 = 13

LOOP



KAKURO



FAST FIVE

O	V	A	L	S
R	E	V	U	E
A	N	I	M	E
N	A	S	A	L
G	L	O	S	S

BULL'S EYE

ADENOID, aeon, anode, diode, done, node

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